

the Bullet

Volume 77, No. 14

Serving the Mary Washington College community since 1922

January 29, 2004

Country Crazy



Lonestar to perform
PAGE 8

Costa Rican Beauty



A Trip to the Caribbean
PAGE 4

Winter Weather Strikes

Two MWC Students Seriously Injured in Sledding Accidents

By PORTSIA SMITH and COREY BYERS
Associate Editor and Staff Writer

On Monday, Jan. 26, two Mary Washington College students were seriously injured while snow sledding.

Junior James "Kent" Ingalls, a commuter student was struck by a vehicle on Sunken Road after sledding down a hill near Russell Hall.

Ingalls suffered life-threatening head injuries and was rushed to Mary Washington Hospital, said Bernard Chirico, vice president for student affairs and dean of students.

"The fear was his injuries were so severe they didn't know if he would live," Chirico said.

According to Chirico, doctors hoped to have a helicopter transfer Ingalls to the VCU Medical Center in Richmond, but the snowy weather prevented them from flying. Instead, a group of rescue squad drivers volunteered to drive the victim to Richmond.

After a successful surgery, Ingalls returned home yesterday. A close family member said, "He is doing fine."

The driver of the vehicle, a recent Mary Washington College graduate, will not be charged.

A second sledding accident near Russell Hall caused serious injuries to 18-year-old freshman Kevin Blaemire on Sunday evening.

Campus Police Chief J.C. Snipes said the



Peter Kelley/Bullet

Students brave the snow to go to class.



Trinkle Hall sparkles in the snow.

student "was sledding feet first and a branch he didn't see impaled him."

Chirico said the student underwent surgery at Mary Washington Hospital.

There are no current policies or regulations about sledding on campus, Snipes said.

"This is the first real problem [with sledding] besides people stealing trays from Seacobeck or dumpster lids."

Chirico said the college tries to tell students to be careful, but he will call a meeting to see what the college can do to prevent this from happening again.

MWC Campus Closes Due To Hazardous Weather Conditions

On Monday, Mary Washington College students were treated to half a snow day, followed by a full day on Tuesday.

After a one-hour delay in the morning, classes after 3 p.m. on Monday were officially cancelled.

On Tuesday, the entire campus was closed due to dangerous road conditions and the impending inclement weather.

A blanket of snow covered the campus providing students the opportunity to leave

their residence halls and classrooms to enjoy the cold weather.

Students said both the campus and the surrounding community look better with a few layers of snow.

Sophomore David Riley complimented the winter atmosphere. "I think that the snow makes the campus look really pretty," he said.

Freshman Amanda Lemco said she took a stroll into downtown Fredericksburg.

"I did more on the non-snow day," she said. "Monday night I took a walk downtown and no one was there. It was pristine and white."

► See SNOW, page 2

Viruses Gone Wild

By JAMES TRAMEL
Assistant News Editor

Two viruses, Mydoom and Beagle have plagued student emails over the past week, cramming and slowing the campus email system and spawning themselves all across campus.

Junior Kevin O'Connor received over 60 such virus-laden emails.

"It's really stupid, and I'm still getting them," O'Connor said. "It's just a pain in the rear."

Of 18,000 emails between the hours of 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Wednesday morning Joseph Haynes, director of network services at Mary Washington College, found that 14,000 emails were infected and 4,000 were spam, leaving only 2,000 intentional emails.

The virus caused over 50,000 emails to remain in the systems queue through Tuesday, a holding area where all emails filter through, according to

Haynes. This has caused a significant email slowdown.

The viruses come across Mary Washington College's webmail system under the innocent subject lines Hi or Test.

A fix was applied early Wednesday, according to Haynes, after most of the staff was out due to the recent snow.

Until it clears out, email will be running a little slow, Haynes said.

"If the date and time are correct," said Christopher Klimartin, professor of Psychology, "this email I got from my friend at Cornell has taken over twenty hours to get here."

Despite the wide distribution of the viruses, there has been a low to almost no incidence of infection.

"The only calls we've gotten were to see if we knew about it," said senior Valerie Richard, help desk technician.

"Anyone that seemed to get the virus, we just referred to Symantec for a patch."

A patch is a temporary fix to the virus or worm, according to wikipedia.com. The Symantec Corporation is the maker of the Norton anti-virus system, Mary Washington College's virus protection system.

Until last week, virus attacks were rather mild.

"We haven't really had any problems yet this semester," said Barry Buchanan, network analyst for the Office of Computer and Network Services. "Nothing like last year with the Blaster virus."

A Nov. 6, 2003 *Bullet* article reported that the Blaster and Welchia viruses infected at least 1,000 computers of faculty, staff and students.

According to Haynes, the reason for the low incidence of the new viruses this semester is in part due to the Norton anti-virus system, which was handed

► See VIRUS, page 2

Rankings Revealed

By KIARA KERWIN
Assistant Features Editor

In the most recent edition of Barron's Guide to Colleges, which looks at colleges and universities every two years, Mary Washington College was placed in the Very Competitive category and was also given a distinction within that category.

The guidebook, which designates colleges from Most Competitive to Least Competitive, has placed Mary Washington College with the Highly Competitive colleges with a decade or so, said Senior Vice President for Advancement and College Relations Ron Singleton.

Another Virginia school took Mary Washington College's place at the Highly Competitive level. In the past, James Madison

University was in the Very Competitive category.

Vice President of Enrollment Martin Wilder disagreed with the view that its new designation of Highly Competitive seems to indicate an increased selectivity.

"The gap is widening with JMU," Wilder said. "Our academic profile is higher than James Madison's."

Wilder said he does not know why Barron's demoted Mary Washington College in their competition categories.

"Our academic profile has gone continually upward so I'm not sure why that would be the case," he said.

Singleton, however, said he is not very worried about the college's drops in certain rankings.

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U.S. News Says MWC In Top Ten
Among Master's Universities In Southeast

VIRGINIA'S NEXT GREAT UNIVERSITY:
University of Mary Washington

VA Assembly Passes UMW

The Virginia State Senate voted 37 to 2 on Jan. 27 to approve "University of Mary Washington" as the umbrella name for Mary Washington College and the James Monroe Center.

The House of Delegates passed a similar bill earlier this month.

Once the new name is approved by Gov. Mark Warner, the new university name will take effect on July 1, 2004.

5 Day Forecast

TODAY
Mostly Sunny
High: 43
Low: 25

FRIDAY
Rain/Snow Showers
High: 43
Low: 18

SATURDAY
Sunny
High: 35
Low: 17

SUNDAY
Mostly Sunny
High: 39
Low: 26

MONDAY
Rain/Snow Showers
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Low: 18

Verbatim ...

"I have to get myself organized so that when I graduate on My 8th I won't be such a loser."

-Elysabeth Massucci, page 4

Computers Suffer

◀ VIRUS, page 1

out for free to all students.

The Norton anti-virus program will catch these viruses if used properly.

"The virus scan should pick it up right away," said Linda

Maple, director of user services. "In order for the virus scan to work properly, students have got to keep anti-virus programs on their computers and update their virus files regularly."

The viruses seem to be getting stronger, however.

The Mydoom virus, officially named W32/Mydoom@MM or W32.Novarg.A@mm virus, which came out recently under the 'hi,' 'test,' or 'error' subject line has become the fastest spreading computer virus to date, and the damage could continue for months or years, according to Robert Lemos, CNET News.com staff writer.

Symantec called the Mydoom virus wild and highly distributed. This means the virus is spreading quickly and widely among computer users. According to Symantec's Web site, the high wild rating "takes into account the number of infected independent sites and computers, the geographic distribution of infection, the ability of current technology to combat the threat, and the complexity of the virus."

Last week, and continuing this week the Beagle, officially called the W32.Beagle.A@mm virus, also tagged several student accounts.

Both the Mydoom and Beagle viruses are considered worms that spoof unsuspecting email users.

According to webopedia.com, a worm is a program that replicates itself over a computer network and usually performs malicious actions.

A spoof, according to webopedia.com, is when another program forges an email header to make it appear as if it came from somewhere or someone other than the actual source.

The spoof for both worms could come from a variety of sources, including RGSTinfo@mwc, which appears as an official looking email from the college.

"Spoofs can come from anywhere, or anyone," said Chip German, vice president for information technologies and chief information officer. "That's how worms sometimes work. They go into your email, and just send out more of itself to everyone in your address book. They can come from anyone's address they find anywhere on the Internet."

To remove either virus students may log onto where they can download an automatic patch.

How to Remove the Virus:

<http://securityresponse.symantec.com/>

- Turn off and remove unneeded services.
- Always keep your patch levels up-to-date
- Enforce a password policy. Complex passwords make it difficult to crack password files on compromised computers.
- This helps to prevent or limit damage when a computer is compromised.
- Configure your email server to block or remove email that contains file attachments that are commonly used to spread viruses, such as .vbs, .bat, .exe, .pif and .scr files.
- Isolate infected computers.
- Do not open attachments unless they are expecting them. Also, do not execute software that is downloaded from the Internet unless it has been scanned for viruses. Simply visiting a compromised Web site can cause infection if certain browser vulnerabilities are not patched.



Peter Kelley-Bullet

Snow blankets Ball Circle and Chandler Hall.

Winter Wonderland

◀ SNOW, page 1

Some students were willing to brave the icy campus to sled, have snowball fights, and play games outside.

Sophomore Heather McKenzie joined with friends to organize a football game.

She and her friends called up students around campus to join in. Freshman Marissa Domino and junior Laura Holliman spent time sledding between the Jefferson Hall and Bushnell Hall buildings.

Holliman was upset a snow day was not called on Monday as well.

"I was mad we didn't get one Monday," she said. "I went to class but I was grumpy."

Junior Sally Poole was also annoyed that all of Monday's classes were not cancelled.

"Out of protest I skipped one class," she said.

Some students, believed to be freshman from Jefferson Hall, used the snow for creative purposes.

A group of about ten individuals was seen late Monday night with a truck full of snow

parked on Jefferson Square.

What resulted about two hours later was an eight foot snow statue resembling that of the primary male reproductive organs.

The students responsible for the artwork were unable to be reached for comment.

Other students decided to use their extra free time to stay indoors.

Junior David Steele, *Bullet* Webmaster, spent his time dedicated to schoolwork.

"It's no big deal to me, I had one class," Steele said. "I'm writing a paper for my course on the History of Ancient Greece."

Indoor gaming also seemed to take up students' spare time.

When asked what they did, freshmen Eugene He and Andrew Peters said together, "We gambled."

Many students who were approached for comment said that they were just relaxing, eating, sleeping and taking it easy.

Freshman Robert Chapman, only had a few words to describe the snow day.

"Lots of Ramen!" he said

A Is For Apple...

◀ EDUCATION, page 12

education package."

The department is famous for interactive, on-the-job training

unmatched by any other course of study. Students said the switch from college to an actual career is made much easier.

"You do everything the teacher does except collect the paycheck," said senior Erin Merrill, who has already completed their student teaching. For every part, teachers and faculty are there.

"They make sure we're taken care of," Kevin Johnson said. The program is challenging, but it pays off in the end. "We want to challenge," McCall

said. "We want top-notch teachers when they come out of here. Students that come out of our department are going to be well-prepared."

When asked if they think the program will continue to be popular, both students and teachers responded positively.

"It prepares you for life after college," said senior Alex Capshaw-Taylor. Senior Alyssa Tice added the NCLB ("No Child Left Behind") Act will also be helpful to education students.

Beginning in 2005, the nation's schools will be required to employ qualified teachers. "Qualified" is defined by each state.

In Virginia it means fully certified, which is exactly what the college's education program provides.



Andrew Deci-Bullet

Trinkle Hall, home to the Education Department at Mary Washington College.

Corrections:

In last week's *Bullet*, the names Peter Kelley and Andy Tramel were spelled incorrectly. Also, The Centers for Disease Control were incorrectly referred to as the Center for Disease Control.

Put A Valentine's Day Love Note in the *Bullet*...

And Your Relationship Will Last Longer Than Jen And Ben's.

Send a message to your sweetheart in the Feb. 12 issue of *The Bulletin*. Email your love note to bullet@mwc.edu by Monday, Feb. 9. Limit your message to 25 words. These personals are FREE!

Happy Valentine's Day from *The Bulletin*.

Barron's Lowers MWC

◀ RANKINGS, page 1

"We don't get concerned whether we go up or down or drop off this or that," he said. "Rankings are the icing on the cake and not an objective of the schools."

Singleton said Mary Washington College's selectivity is increasing but that that is not entirely positive.

"We're selective enough," he said.

Singleton said as selectivity increases fewer students tend to apply because they think their chances of being accepted are too slim.

He is pleased with the school's current level of selectivity.

"We are right where we want to be," he said.

Some students are surprised at Mary Washington College's drop in certain guidebooks.

"I'm surprised that MWC was ranked lower in Barron's, but I'm not surprised with all the extra students they've been enrolling," Mary Washington College graduate Rob Bowen said.

"It's hard to keep up quality when you have so many freaking students to deal with without an increase in faculty."

Some students use guidebooks and directories such as the Princeton Review, the Barron's series and U.S. News & World

Report to help them find colleges to apply to. Bowen said Barron's played a significant role in his decision to attend Mary Washington College.

"I remember the Barron's ranking in particular, mainly because they had it on a banner when I came to visit the campus," Bowen said. "I admit it made me think much more highly of the college than when I first started looking into it. I was like, it must be pretty decent, even if I've never heard of the college before."

Wildier is not concerned about the impact that the college's drop in Barron's will have.

Additionally, he does not think highly of Barron's system of categorizing colleges into selectivity levels.

"Barron's methodology is some kind of arcane mathematical formula," he said.

Barron's uses several factors in determining what level of competitiveness the school

receives, including SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) and ACT (American College Test) scores of the incoming freshman class, percent of incoming freshman class in the top fifth and twofifths percentiles of their class, percentage of faculty with Ph.D.s and student to faculty ratio.

The average GPA of Mary Washington enrolled freshmen for 2003 was 3.63 and the average SAT score was 1223.

Singleton said he has found the U.S. News & World Report rankings to be the most valuable.

"It's nice to be included in these rankings," Singleton said. "U.S. News & World Report uses

the most advanced and scientific data, including U.S. Department of Education data."

This year U.S. News & World Report placed Mary Washington College in the category of Best Universities by Region.

Among Southern schools, Mary Washington College is tied for sixth place with Loyola University of New Orleans and Mercer University.

One of the rankings publications that Singleton regards less highly is The Princeton Review, which bases school statuses on unscientific information.

"The Princeton Review uses person-on-the-street interviews,"

Singleton said. "They set up a table in a prominent location and grab students."

He said the opinions students give are subjective and focus on extremes of their college experience.

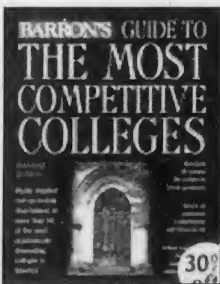
Mary Washington College was included in The Princeton Review's most recent edition of The Best 351 Colleges.

Student comments are included in college descriptions and in the academic category as Mary Washington College senior is quoted as saying, "My professors are so rad."

Suzanne McCloskey, a senior music and biology major, was not surprised by Mary Washington College's change in the Barron's Ranking.

"They're probably trying to get more guys to come here and it's working but affecting our rating," she said.

Like Bowen, Barron's was part of McCloskey's decision to apply to Mary Washington College.



Courtesy amazon.com

The 2004 Barron's Guide in which Mary Washington College was ranked.

Viewpoints

Editorial

A Snowy Situation

Virginia is widely known for its poor snowstorm management. Whenever more than a half-inch of snow is predicted, local schools, governments and businesses shut down, sometimes before one tiny flake hits the ground.

On Monday, Mary Washington College chose not to close the school despite significant accumulation and the threat of more snow and ice. Students were pissed.

Nearby, Germanna Community College was closed. James Madison University was closed. In fact, most colleges and universities within a hundred-mile radius were closed.

The students and faculty responded differently. On-campus students skipped class, or resentfully trudged through the elements. Commuting students skipped class, or put their lives at risk by driving on the slick roads. Many faculty and staff skipped as well.

Regardless of whether people showed up or not, the question on everybody's mind was, simply, "Why?"

Did the college administration not traverse the same roads their students and faculty had to brave? Did they make the decision from their bedrooms, curled up with a book and a mug of hot cocoa? It seems they did.

Perhaps the administration wanted to prove their mettle, though. With a new name, there is a new image to promote. Though the college resides in Virginia, perhaps the administration did not want to associate itself with the meek reputation the Commonwealth has when it comes to snowy situations.

Unfortunately, there will likely be no explanation. We can say definitively, though, it was a poor decision. It fostered bitterness (as evident by the harsh-worded "away messages" on AOL Instant Messenger) and put people in unnecessary danger.

Next time it snows, just give us a day off. We don't have anything to prove.

"Chaos At Its Very Finest"

A First Person Account Of The Daily Mob At The Eagles Nest

By KATY NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

The stroke of noon always seems to transform the Eagles Nest into a pandemonium of epic proportions. This past week, I witnessed chaos at its very finest. I made the mistake of lunching at 12:00 on Wednesday, right after class. Apparently the entire student body had the same idea.

I was startled by the sight of the crowd, bottlenecked at three different cash registers. Sandwiches and tacos were out of the question, and it was nearly impossible to determine where the taco line began and the sandwich line ended.

An employee gingerly offered a single serving of chicken nuggets to the hungry vultures, and I watched about ten hands emerge from the crowd and descend upon it. A cup of french fries was strewn across the floor, a lost cause. Nobody bothered to pick it up for fear of being trampled.

I decided to check out the soups of the day, and slowly but surely swam through the throng of bodies. Some were forcing smiles, others mumbling through clenched teeth. After saying "excuse me" about ten times (there really is no polite way to elbow your way through), I emerged on the other side of the crowd, by the Campbell's soup display.

The absence of frantic ladders was my first indication that the soup was a no-go. My suspicion was confirmed by closer inspection. What had once been chili was now a pot of steaming water. I stood there in defeat, savoring the breathing room, toying with the idea of eating a cup of hot water for lunch, and planning my next course of action: a bagel!

Alas, I had passed the bagel bins on my way in, and now they were a sweaty, angry, frightening world away. I took a deep breath and once again made my way through the mob, which was actually an amazingly complex network of lines. I sidestepped in an attempt to be as aerodynamic as possible. The bagel bins were sparsely occupied, but I managed to scoop up a plain one before the realization hit me like a ton of bricks: I was nowhere near the

I encountered the vast expanse of the main cash register line. It was coiled around the fruit stand like a boa constrictor suffocating its prey.



Peter Kelley/Bullet

Students at the Eagles Nest wait in a line of epic proportions.

cream cheese. Could I settle for grape jelly? Was it worth risking life and limb for a tiny cream cheese packet? I knew what I had to do—grape jelly was just not going to cut it. I was desperate, but still had some standards.

I made my way through the crowd a bit more forcefully this time. I had become an old pro at this point. This was when I encountered the vast expanse of the main cash register line. It was coiled around the fruit stand like a boa constrictor suffocating its prey. It looped and twisted in every direction, and I had

to do some investigation just to locate its end. The price one must pay for some cream cheese!

Note: I did not cut into the middle of the line in order to stick the upper half of my body into the refrigerator and painstakingly survey the cream cheese selection, displacing those who had been standing there for eons. This is a major faux pas in my book.

I finally got to the end of the line and paid what at that point seemed a trivial monetary price for my bagel. Emerging victorious, I beamed and walked with a trace of a spring in my step. That was when I saw the line for the toaster...

Katy Nicholson is a sophomore

Going To School On A Snow Day

Student Ponders The Reasons For Classes Being Held On Monday

By BRITTANY SHANKLE
Guest Columnist

In light of recent events on campus, I am wondering what goes through the minds of a Mary Washington College administrator when they wake up in the morning to a yard full of snow.

Why, on Monday, did our administration seem to think we were living in a tropical paradise and refuse to see the piles of snow growing outside their windows? I have a few explanations.

Maybe all of our administration has suffered immense eye trauma from staring all day at paperwork for the name change and at night in

their dreams they see nothing but white paper with black ink floating in front of them. So on Monday morning, they woke up and looked outside to see a big sheet of blank paper. This, of course, prompted them to believe that they were still dreaming and that really the Mary Washington College campus was in the middle of a 90-degree heat wave. They took the extra hour to try to decide which side of the name change issue this giant sheet of paper was on.

Of course, it's always possible that all of our administration hails from northern Canada, or even Maine, where the Department of Transportation *knows* how to clear snow from the roads without turning it immediately into ice and creating huge potholes in the process. If

this is the case, I must have pity on them.

I am sure that members of the administration were in such a state of shock after driving to work on Monday morning that they had to close campus Tuesday just to go see a doctor to get their eyes to pop back into their heads.

Now, the final conclusion is one I don't want to believe. If I have to submit to believing the rumors that were flying around campus about our wonderful administration, I don't know what will become of my long-lived respect and adoration for our hard working deans.

The rumor I speak of is that the only reason our winter-land campus was open on Monday for class was because of a technology seminar that was scheduled to take place.

The rumor continues that if the administration had canceled this event along with classes they would have had to refund all

the money that people had paid to attend, and they did not want to do this.

This rumor saddens me greatly. I only hope that there could be some other excuse for the cause of so many bruises and broken bridges as students slipped and slid their way to class early Monday morning.

Why, on Monday, did our administration seem to think we were living in a tropical paradise and refuse to see the piles of snow growing outside their windows?

I dreamed that maybe the several slips and falls that occurred on Monday where not for money-saving purposes, but because our administration was hard at work trying to make Mary Washington College a better place for us to live and learn.

Perhaps I am wrong, and this rumor is unfounded. However, Mary Washington College staff has not given me, as a student, any other explanation. This sad miscommunication has brought tears to my eyes as I ice skate to my classes across campus...but those tears have

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www.thebulletonline.com

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Letter and Editorial Policy

The Bulletin is always eager to receive letters to the editor, and every effort is made to print them.

Letters should be submitted the Monday before publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and columns should not exceed 700 words. We will not publish anonymous submissions. Letters must include a phone number and address for purposes of verification. They can be mailed to The Bulletin at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA, 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seacobeck Hall or sent to our email address at bullet@mw.edu.

Opinions expressed in columns or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff. Contact the Bulletin at (540) 654-1133.

Computers Suffer

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Peter Kelley/Bullet

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◀ SNOW, page 1

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Indoor gaming also seemed to take up students' spare time.

When asked what they did, freshmen Eugene He and Andrew Peters said together, "We gambled."

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A Is For Apple...

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Andrew Decy/Bullet

Trinkle Hall, home to the Education Department at Mary Washington College.

said. "We want top-notch teachers when they come out of here. Students that come out of our department are going to be well-prepared."

When asked if they think the program will continue to be popular, both students and teachers responded positively.

"It prepares you for life after college," said senior Alex Capshaw-Taylor. Senior Alyssa Tice added the NCLB ("No Child Left Behind") Act will also be helpful to education students.

Beginning in 2005, the nation's schools will be required to employ qualified teachers. "Qualified" is defined by each state.

In Virginia it means fully certified, which is exactly what the college's education program provides.

Barron's Lowers MWC

◀ RANKINGS, page 1

"We don't get concerned whether we go up or down or drop off this or that," he said. "Rankings are the icing on the cake and not an objective of the schools."

Singleton said Mary Washington College's selectivity is increasing but that that is not entirely positive.

"We're selective enough," he said.

Singleton said as selectivity increases fewer students tend to apply because they think their chances of being accepted are too slim.

He is pleased with the school's current level of selectivity.

"We are right where we want to be," he said.

Some students are surprised at Mary Washington College's drop in certain guidebooks.

"I'm surprised that MWC was ranked lower in Barron's, but I'm not surprised with all the extra students they've been enrolling," Mary Washington College graduate Rob Bowen said. "It's hard to keep up quality when you have so many freaking students to deal with without an increase in faculty."

Some students use guidebooks and directories such as the Princeton Review, the Barron's series and U.S. News & World Report to help them find colleges to apply to.

Bowen said Barron's played a significant role in his decision to attend Mary Washington College.

"I remember the Barron's ranking in particular, mainly because they had it on a banner when I came to visit the campus," Bowen said. "I admit it made me think much more highly of the college than when I first started looking into it. I was like, it must be pretty decent, even if I've never heard of the college before."

Wilder is not concerned about the impact that the college's drop in Barron's will have.

Additionally, he does not think highly of Barron's system of categorizing colleges into selectivity levels.

"Barron's methodology is some kind of arcane mathematical formula," he said.

Barron's uses several factors in determining what level of competitiveness the school

receives, including SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) and ACT (American College Test) scores of the incoming freshman class, percent of incoming freshman class in the top fifth and twofifths percentiles of their class, percentage of faculty with Ph.D.s and student to faculty ratio.

The average GPA of Mary Washington enrolled freshmen for 2003 was 3.63 and the average SAT score was 1223.

Singleton said he has found the U.S. News & World Report rankings to be the most valuable.

"It's nice to be included in these rankings," Singleton said. "U.S. News & World Report uses the most advanced and scientific data, including U.S. Department of Education data."

This year U.S. News & World Report placed Mary Washington College in the category of Best Universities by Region.

Among Southern schools, Mary Washington College is tied for sixth place with Loyola University of New Orleans and Mercer University.

One of the rankings publications that Singleton regards less highly is The Princeton Review, which bases school statuses on unsentimental information.

"The Princeton Review uses person-on-the-street interviews," Singleton said. "They set up a table in a prominent location and grab students."

He said the opinions students give are subjective and focus on extremes of their college experience.

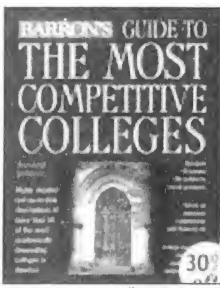
Mary Washington College was included in The Princeton Review's most recent edition of The Best 351 Colleges.

Student comments are included in college descriptions and in the academic category an Mary Washington College senior is quoted as saying, "My professors are so rad."

Suzanne McCloskey, a senior music and biology major, was not surprised by Mary Washington College's change in the Barron's Ranking.

"They're probably trying to get more guys to come here and it's working but affecting our rating," she said.

Like Bowen, Barron's was part of McCloskey's decision to apply to Mary Washington College.



Courtesy amazon.com

The 2004 Barron's Guide in which Mary Washington College was ranked.

Corrections:

In last week's *Bullet*, the names Peter Kelley and Andy Tramel were spelled incorrectly. Also, The Centers for Disease Control were incorrectly referred to as the Center for Disease Control.

Put A Valentine's Day Love Note in *the Bullet*...

And Your Relationship Will Last Longer Than Jen And Ben's.

Send a message to your sweetheart in the Feb. 12 issue of *The Bullet*. Email your love note to bullet@mwc.edu by Monday, Feb. 9. Limit your message to 25 words. These personals are FREE!

Happy Valentine's Day from *The Bullet*.

Viewpoints

Editorial

A Snowy Situation

Virginia is widely known for its poor snowstorm management. Whenever more than a half-inch of snow is predicted, local schools, governments and businesses shut down, sometimes before one tiny flake hits the ground.

On Monday, Mary Washington College chose not to close the school despite significant accumulation and the threat of more snow and ice. Students were pissed.

Nearby, Germanna Community College was closed. James Madison University was closed. In fact, most colleges and universities within a hundred-mile radius were closed.

The students and faculty responded differently. On-campus students skipped class, or resentfully trudged through the elements. Commuting students skipped class, or put their lives at risk by driving on the slick roads. Many faculty and staff skipped as well.

Regardless of whether people showed up or not, the question on everybody's mind was, simply, "Why?"

Did the college administration not traverse the same roads their students and faculty had to brave? Did they make the decision from their bedrooms, curled up with a book and a mug of hot cocoa? It seems they did.

Perhaps the administration wanted to prove their mettle, though. With a new name, there is a new image to promote. Though the college resides in Virginia, perhaps the administration did not want to associate itself with the meek reputation the Commonwealth has when it comes to snowy situations.

Unfortunately, there will likely be no explanation. We can say definitively, though, it was a poor decision. It fostered bitterness (as evident by the harsh-worded "away messages" on AOL Instant Messenger) and put people in unnecessary danger.

Next time it snows, just give us a day off. We don't have anything to prove.

"Chaos At Its Very Finest"

A First Person Account Of The Daily Mob At The Eagles Nest

By KATY NICHOLSON
Staff Writer

The stroke of noon always seems to transform the Eagles Nest into a pandemonium of epic proportions. This past week, I witnessed chaos at its very finest. I made the mistake of lunching at 12:00 on Wednesday, right after class. Apparently the entire student body had the same idea.

I was startled by the sight of the crowd, bottlenecked at three different cash registers. Sandwiches and tacos were out of the question, and it was nearly impossible to determine where the taco line began and the sandwich line ended.

An employee gingerly offered a single serving of chicken nuggets to the hungry vultures, and I watched about ten hands emerge from the crowd and descend upon it. A cup of french fries was strewn across the floor, a lost cause. Nobody bothered to pick it up for fear of being trampled.

I decided to check out the soups of the day, and slowly but surely swam through the throng of bodies. Some were forcing smiles, others mumbling through clenched teeth. After saying "excuse me" about ten times (there really is no polite way to elbow your way through), I emerged on the other side of the crowd, by the Campbell's soup display.

The absence of frantic ladlers was my first indication that the soup was a no-go. My suspicion was confirmed by closer inspection. What had once been chili was now a pot of steaming water. I stood there in defeat, savoring the breathing room, toying with the idea of eating a cup of hot water for lunch, and planning my next course of action: a bagel!

Alas, I had passed the bagel bins on my way in, and now they were a sweaty, angry, frightening world away. I took a deep breath and once again made my way through the mob, which was actually an amazingly complex network of lines. I sidestepped in an attempt to be as acrobatic as possible. The bagel bins were sparsely occupied, but I managed to scoop up a plain one before the realization hit me like a ton of bricks: I was nowhere near the

I encountered the vast expanse of the main cash register line. It was coiled around the fruit stand like a boa constrictor suffocating its prey.



Peter Kelley/Bullet

Students at the Eagles Nest wait in a line of epic proportions.

cream cheese. Could I settle for grape jelly? Was it worth risking life and limb for a tiny cream cheese packet? I knew what I had to do—grape jelly was just not going to cut it. I was desperate, but still had some standards.

I made my way through the crowd a bit more forcefully this time. I had become an old pro at this point. This was when I encountered the vast expanse of the main cash register line. It was coiled around the fruit stand like a boa constrictor suffocating its prey. It looped and twisted in every direction, and I had

to do some investigation just to locate its end. The price one must pay for some cream cheese!

Note: I did not cut into the middle of the line in order to stick the upper half of my body into the refrigerator and painstakingly survey the cream cheese selection, displacing those who had been standing there for eons. This is a major faux pas in my book.

I finally got to the end of the line and paid what at that point seemed a trivial monetary price for my bagel. Emerging victorious, I beamed and walked with a trace of a spring in my step. That was when I saw the line for the toaster...

Katy Nicholson is a sophomore

Going To School On A Snow Day

Student Ponders The Reasons For Classes Being Held On Monday

By BRITTANY SHANKLE
Guest Columnist

In light of recent events on campus, I am wondering what goes through the minds of a Mary Washington College administrator when they wake up in the morning to a yard full of snow.

Why, on Monday, did our administration seem to think we were living in a tropical paradise and refuse to see the piles of snow growing outside their windows? I have a few explanations.

Maybe all of our administration has suffered immense eye trauma from staring all day at paperwork for the name change and at night in

their dreams they see nothing but white paper with black ink floating in front of them. So on Monday morning, they woke up and looked outside to see a big sheet of blank paper. This, of course, prompted them to believe that they were still dreaming and that really the Mary Washington College campus was in the middle of a 90-degree heat wave. They took the extra hour to try to decide which side of the name change issue this giant sheet of paper was on.

Of course, it's always possible that all of our administration hails from northern Canada, or even Maine, where the Department of Transportation knows how to clear snow from the roads without turning it immediately into ice and creating huge potholes in the process. If

this is the case, I must have pity on them.

I am sure that members of the administration were in such a state of shock after driving to work on Monday morning that they had to close campus Tuesday just to go see a doctor to get their eyes to pop back into their heads.

Now, the final conclusion is one I don't want to believe. If I have to submit to believing the rumors that were flying around campus about our wonderful administration, I don't know what will become of my long-lived respect and adoration for our hard working deans.

The rumor I speak of is that the only reason our winter-land campus was open on Monday for class was because of a technology seminar that was scheduled to take place.

The rumor continues that if the administration had canceled this event along with classes they would have had to refund all

the money that people had paid to attend, and they did not want to do this.

This rumor saddens me greatly. I only hope that there could be some other excuse for the cause of so many bruises and broken pride as students slipped and slid their way to class early Monday morning.

I dreamed that maybe the several slips and falls that occurred on Monday were not for money-saving purposes, but because our administration was hard at work trying to make Mary Washington College a better place for us to live and learn.

Perhaps I am wrong, and this rumor is unfounded. However, Mary Washington College staff has not given me, as a student, any other explanation. This sad miscommunication has brought tears to my eyes as I ice skate to my classes across campus...but those tears have

▶ See *SCHOOL*, page 11

Why, on Monday, did our administration seem to think we were living in a tropical paradise and refuse to see the piles of snow growing outside their windows?

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www.thebulletonline.com

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The Bulletin is always eager to receive letters to the editor, and every effort is made to print them.

Letters should be submitted the Monday before publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and columns should not exceed 700 words.

We will not publish anonymous submissions. Letters must include a phone number and address for purposes of verification. They can be mailed to The Bulletin at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA, 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seacoack Hall or sent to our email address at bullet@mw.edu.

Opinions expressed in columns or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff.

Contact The Bulletin at (540) 654-1133.

Serving the Mary Washington College Community since 1922.

Features



By Betsy Crumb
News Editor



ith eyes closed, hands clenched together and breath held, four big Costa Rican guys held each of her shoulders,

counted to three, and threw her off the platform. "I knew I would do it some time," said Abby Lindsay, a Mary Washington College sophomore. "But I didn't know it would be now. So I'm on top of the bridge, like oh my God, can I do this? I don't know if I can do this. Oh my God, that's how far it is down there to the bottom. That's a tiny little stream and it has rocks in it."

Lindsay was bungee jumping during her five-week trip to San Jose, Costa Rica this past summer, where she studied tropical ecology and Spanish at the Universidad Veritas.

"So they grabbed us and held us up by the shoulders and chucked us off," Lindsay said. "And then I landed upside down and you actually bounce up most of the way. Then afterwards was my favorite part, when you're just hanging in the air upside down, in the middle of the trees. Everything is around you and it's beautiful and you really don't even realize you are

upside down."

Lindsay, a 19-year-old environmental science major from Dover, N.H., decided last February that she wanted to do something educational and fun for the summer. She applied to the International Study Abroad program and was accepted in early April.

"I really wanted to do something with the rainforest," Lindsay said. "Tropical ecology was a great pick."

The program lasted five weeks, from July 6 through Aug. 9. Amidst her schoolwork, Lindsay packed in snorkeling trips, beaches, kayaking, museums, theaters, shopping, cloud forests, bungee jumping, volcano-touring, hummingbird and butterfly guides, salsa and merengue dance classes, cooking classes and her favorite, ziplining.

"There you are, in Monteverde in the Cloud Forest," Lindsay said, describing her experience ziplining one Thursday afternoon. "There are about 20 to 30 tree platforms and you are strapped into this harness. Then

you just zip from tree to tree and it's so beautiful. There are birds all around and the scenery is picturesque."

Lindsay took an afternoon trip up to the mountains above San Jose with the rest of her study abroad friends. Monteverde is in a Cloud Forest, which is a tropical region at a high elevation covered in plants and vines.

Besides the trees in the forest, Lindsay saw a half-foot long grasshopper, which she said was not unusual for the area.

"It was the best grasshopper ever,"

she said. "It was camouflaged into the sticks and stuff and you could barely see it, but when you did it was just great because it was like a half-a-foot long."

Lindsay said one of the best parts of the trip to the Central American isthmus was the variety of different plants and animals that she was surrounded by.

"In my tropical ecology class, one of the main points they teach you is that there is so much diversity down there that they can't teach you

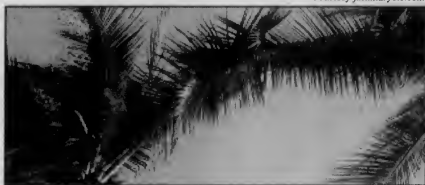
everything," Lindsay said. "There's no, you know, this is this and that is that. You can do that for the common things you see every day, but in general there is just way too much stuff to do that. The scientists and people down there don't even know the names of everything."

Lindsay's class in tropical ecology had her traveling all around Costa Rica much of the time to view various aspects of the environment. The third weekend she was there, she and four other girls from her ecology class went to a little bay on the Nicoya Peninsula called the Bay of Curu. Curu is a

► See COSTA RICA, page 5



Courtesy jackmarjete.com



Left: Senior Abby Lindsay poses in the forests of Costa Rica.

Courtesy Abby Lindsay

New Year's Resolutions

By Niki Larson
Staff Writer

Sophomore Jeff Holt was in the best shape of his life when he played soccer in junior high. Since then he hasn't done much physical activity, so this year his New Year's resolution is to get back into shape.

This year, Mary Washington College students are making New Year's resolutions of all kinds in hopes to improve their own lives or someone else's. Some are having more success than others. "I decided I need to get myself in some kind of shape again so that if I'm ever being chased by someone I can get away," Holt said.

Junior Carolyn Schranck is challenging herself to train and complete a half marathon this coming May in her hometown of Rehoboth, Del. The race will benefit the Lower Delaware Autism Foundation.

"I want to do it because it benefits a worthy

cause, and I have raced in 5Ks before so I wanted a bigger challenge for myself," Schranck said.

In preparation for the half marathon she has to run at least 30 to 45 minutes every other day. On the days when she's not running she does strength training or low impact cardio. Sundays are set aside for long runs, which Schranck said will eventually be 14 to 15 miles long. So far, Schranck is diligent about her workout and is determined to run in May.

Over winter break sophomore Emelie St. Cyr was planning on giving up chocolate for her resolution, but it didn't last long. After a trip to the dentist St. Cyr found out she would have to purchase a \$1,500 jaw splint to help remedy TMJ, a jaw joint disease. Since then, she has decided against depriving herself of one of life's finer things.

Sophomore Ellen Patton loves Hollywood

gossip, so this year she hopes to quit her obsession with celebrity life. So far, Patton has been successful. She has stopped watching "Access Hollywood" and reading the entertainment section of msn.com.

"I've realized that it doesn't matter and it doesn't have any effect on my life and what I'm learning," says Patton.

Patton's second resolution is to live more in the moment. She said she has always been a person who gets too caught up in planning ahead.

"I tend to live in the future, so I want to start living life for the moment," says Patton.

Right now she wears a ring to remind her of her resolution.

Patton's twin sister, Frances Patton, wants to read more books even though she is already an avid reader. She figures it can't hurt. But more importantly, Patton said she wants to have good hair days all year long.

Junior Miguel Laygo wants to make at least one person smile every day.

"So far, I've been very successful," Laygo said.

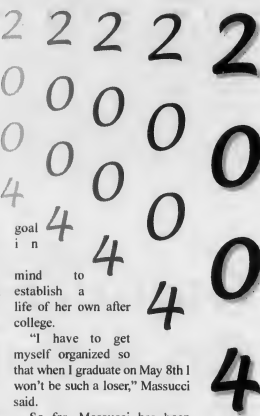
Junior Sam Smith has a long list of things she wants to do but never seems to follow through with them. The list includes traveling to the Dominican Republic with an orphanage outreach program and making plans to live in a big city during the summer.

This year Smith resolves to be more assertive in going after what she wants.

"I've always wanted to go live overseas or go live in a big city, but I know I'm never going to do it, so I decided I needed to make more active decisions," Smith said.

Sophomore Eunice Kang is trying her best this year not to procrastinate, not just in school, but in all aspects of her life. She maintains it's hard not to put off work but is trying her best to meet her goal.

Senior Elysabeth Massucci made a promise to herself that she would be more organized with the



goal in mind to establish a life of her own after college.

"I have to get myself organized so that when I graduate on May 8th I won't be such a loser," Massucci said.

So far, Massucci has been successful. She has planned out her last semester, found a part time job and has designated a weekend to fly back to the Northeast to interview for jobs in Vermont and Boston.

Robyn Porter graduated from the college last May and is now engaged to be married. Currently Porter has a lot on her plate because she is in the tedious process of planning her wedding while at the same time trying to find another job.

This year Porter resolves to be less of a control freak. She recognizes that she can't control everything in her life so she is trying her best to let it go.

"It's hard," Porter said. "I'm a type A personality who would love to be a type B."

But resolutions aren't for everybody.

Senior Chelsea St. Clair didn't even consider making a resolution.

"I actually didn't make any resolutions this year since I usually end up breaking them anyway," St. Clair said. "So I figured that the best way not to break them is not to make them."



Andrew Deci/Bullet

Freshman Dick Gronske works out at the gym. Many students decided to work out or exercise more for their New Year's resolution.

Thumbs Up... Thumbs Down...



To the snow day!



To snow-related injuries.



To Carl's reopening next month.



To the end of "Bennifer."

Send your own thumbs to bullet@mw.edu

'They are so much friendlier than Americans'

4 COSTA RICA, page 4

scientific reserve which is only open to scientists and students doing research.

"My favorite part of Curu was the monkeys," Lindsay said. "They were great. They are called spider monkeys and they are brown and monkey-ish. But they are just so funny. They are aggressive by nature, so they are just all over the place all the time."

According to Lindsay, the monkeys have been domesticated since they were young. This makes them a pest to society because they are always looking for human attention.

"There was one monkey, just one of them, that had been there for a long, long time and he got into everything," Lindsay said. "So you have to be careful to shut all the doors and windows and not leave anything lying around or else this monkey will take it."

While we were there, the monkey grabbed someone's lunch, ripped it open and was just eating the food. And then, the bus driver had gone back to the hotel for something and as he drove back, the monkey just jumped right in front of him, hands and feet spread out on the windshield. They do that all the time, so that passer-bys will be like "Oh, what a cute monkey, here's a peanut!" Lindsay also recalled one time when she and her friends were swimming and the monkey sneaked up to their clothes, looking to swipe something from their belongings.

"We were like, 'Oh no, they have our backpacks!' and then out of nowhere this dog comes," Lindsay said. "And the dog just started barking at [the monkey] and the monkey is waving his arms everywhere and then the dog runs away in one direction and the monkey runs away in the other and it was just hilarious, so classic."

Lindsay described the monkeys as "evil, malicious little creatures" but was also fascinated by the animals.

Lindsay took six credits of Spanish and four credits of tropical ecology, all of which can be transferred to Mary Washington College. Her final project for ecology was a study of sustainable agriculture, which allowed her to study all the plants of the region. The final paper focused on how the present system with pesticides works and included a list of alternative ways to farm in a sustainable agricultural way.

"[Sustainable agriculture] is agriculture that doesn't hurt the environment," Lindsay said. "It uses less or no pesticides and there are multiple crops grown in the same area. Farmers use organic matter to nourish the ground and there is more biodiversity. Some plants, like coffee, are shade grown; instead of sun grown, which

takes longer but is better for the coffee in the long run."

Lindsay said one thing that was of slight discomfort for her was how she often noticed her minority status.

"We just stood out so much," she said. "The last night we were there, we went out dancing in a club and I felt like I was on stage. Everyone was staring at us. It usually happened more in the nighttime and for the most part everyone was so friendly. But until they actually got to know you, you were known as 'Gringo' and stared at."

However, Lindsay remembered one time when her minority status brought her a lot of stares as well as a lot of laughs.

"We were hanging out with our friend Hiro," Lindsay said. "...So we went to Hiro's apartment and there's a bunch of people, including this security guard there," Lindsay continued. "We get out of the car, first Hiro and all of his friends and then me. Now I'm obviously white and the guys just sort of stare at me, wondering what all these Ticos are doing with an American and then [my two friends] get out of the trunk and everyone is just staring at us, wondering what the heck is going on, because here we are, four Ticos and three Gringos. It was priceless. The looks on their faces were so funny."

Ticos are what the people of Costa Rica are called. Lindsay said she met many Ticos on her numerous bus and taxi rides she took around the country and that for the most part all were very helpful and friendly.

"They are so much friendlier than Americans," she said. "Anyone is willing to help you out; they are very peaceful, laid-back people."

One of the stark contrasts Lindsay noticed in culture struck her on her trip to Curu. After snorkeling through pink coral and schools of yellow and blue fish, Lindsay and her group were relaxing in their motorboat when a Tico man came over to them in hopes of



Courtesy Abby Lindsay

Abby Lindsay with some of the exotic fauna in one of Costa Rica's tropical rainforests.



Courtesy monteverdeinfo.com

selling some oysters.

"There was just this man in a boat," Lindsay said. "And he was obviously a Tico because he was very dark skinned and he was pretty old too. So he comes up to us, this pretty big motorboat with 15 people in it along with all the equipment we had just used to snorkel with and he's in this tiny little rowboat with no motor, just one oar. And he's selling oysters that he just dove for."

"He didn't use any equipment or anything, just dove right in the water for them," she continued. "And it was just really neat because that's what he's been doing for so long, for years and years and you know tourists are coming in and you're in a society where he could buy the snorkeling equipment, but he doesn't. He's just traditional and it's great to see that cultural difference."

Lindsay's favorite story came during her visit to Gaunacaste, a northwestern Costa Rican province that contains Rincon de la Vieja, an active volcano.

"We found this glow-in-the-dark fungus during our night hike which was so cool," Lindsay said. "And then our guide, Oscar, made a hat out of a leaf with the glow-in-the-dark fungus and put the leaf on his head. Then he added two sticks for eyes and a stone for a mouth. His son, who was about six, was just going crazy at the 'monster.' And it was so funny. It was one of the most memorable things of the trip."

After monkey kleptomancies, trunk rides, bungee jumping, ziplining and numerous other activities, it's not surprising that Lindsay keeps in touch with her fellow International Study Abroad friends and would recommend this program to anyone. "It's just so neat to see the way another people live," she said. "There are so many things to do here. I was never still and that helped me not to miss things at home so much. But there were always new places to go, people to meet and things to see. It was great to see both the city and the country. I had an amazing time and I can't wait to travel around the rest of the world now, learning about other cultures and peoples."

The Big Question

Seniors Look for Jobs, Grad Schools

By Jennifer Wooten
Staff Writer

Senior Caitlin Burnmeister doesn't have a job offer after graduation yet. Along with many other seniors, she joined the search for post-graduation employment.

"It's sucking so far," Burnmeister said of the job search.

Burnmeister applied to a few jobs over the winter break, but at this point she hasn't heard anything back. However, she is still actively looking and will apply when she notices something opens up.

"I've sent my resume out to a couple places so far, but I haven't gotten any interviews or anything yet," Burnmeister said.

Many seniors plan to begin concentrating on finding a job after graduation. Based on a survey that career services sends out six months after graduation, last year only about four to five percent of graduates were still searching for employment. In 2000, the survey showed that fewer than two percent of graduates were unemployed.

Some students are too busy with college to start thinking about what to do after graduation.

Senior Angela Filmeck, an English major, hasn't focused on looking for a job yet.

"I work full-time and go to Mary Washington College full-time," Filmeck said. "It makes it hard to concentrate on looking for a job."

Senior Patrick Hiltz, a political science major, hasn't started looking for a job either.

"I have no job lined up," he said. "I haven't even started looking. I really have no idea what I want to do yet."

Senior Alex Vizzier, an English major, has completed two paid internships, but instead of looking for a job, she plans to attend graduate school after graduation.

"However, if I do not get into any programs to which I applied, I will work," Vizzier said.

Graduate school is a choice that many students consider. Biology major Kristin Ripley and English major Erin Wood are both planning to attend graduate school at the James Monroe Center.

"I want to go to graduate school to get my Masters as well as become certified to teach," Ripley said.

Based on the Career Services survey, the percentage of 2003 graduates attending graduate school is about 20 percent. A few years ago, the

number was 15 to 16 percent.

"Graduate school is a great choice for students who know exactly what they want to do," said Gary Johnson, director of career services.

However, Johnson warns that attending graduate school specializes a person's knowledge and may actually make it more difficult to find employment.

"Students are going to graduate school whether they know what they want to do or not," Johnson said.

Johnson estimates that only about 10 students come to the workshops the center offers. Career services also has a Career Fair that usually has a large turnout of 300 to 400 students. For Mary Washington College students looking for careers or information about graduate schools, the Office of Career Services is located in George Washington Hall 305. Some students haven't checked out what the center has to offer.

"I always think that I should go, but I'm not even sure where they are, or anything like that," Burnmeister said. Hiltz said he would like to check out a few of the events the center offers but the times conflict with his schedule.

"I read career services e-mails but the times aren't good, if there were more times I would try to go," he said.

According to the career services Web site, the center provides workshops such as the Spring Kick-Off for Seniors (for resume and cover letter writing and interview tips), the Employer Fair and the Education Fair.

If students don't have the time to make an appointment or attend the events they can participate in the Drop Off Resume Critique and within three days resumes are returned with suggestions.

The center also offers a Resource Library, which includes information on Internships, Graduate School, Law School and Medical School. Most of the books can be checked out over night. The Resource Library includes computers with laser printers so students can work on their resumes and cover letters right in the center.

The office of Career Services is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cheap Seats Cinema Presents...

Friday January 30:
Matchstick Men @ 7pm
Lost in Translation @ 10pm

Saturday January 31st:
Lost in Translation @ 7pm
Matchstick Men @ 10pm

Sunday February 1st:
Matchstick Men @ 2pm



This Weekend's Giveaways:

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At Lost in Translation: Gift Certificates to Sakura

Dodd Auditorium, \$1

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Sports

The Pats Are Back

by Dave Buschenfeldt
Staff Writer



The New England Patriots will try to solidify themselves as one of the greatest teams in NFL history when they meet the Carolina Panthers in Super Bowl XXXVIII on Sunday in Houston.

This is the second time in three years that New England will go to the big game, the last being their 20-17 upset win over St. Louis in 2001. The Patriots enter the game with a record of 16-2 and have won their last 14 games, the second longest winning streak in NFL history.

The Patriots defense has allowed less than 14 points per game, including three shutouts, and has 30 interceptions during that stretch.

It was hard to imagine as the season began that the Patriots would be in this position. Safety Lawyer Milloy, one of the team's emotional leaders, was released just before the start of the season due to salary disputes and there were rumors that Belichick was losing control of his team.

The Patriots did nothing to dispel these rumors when they were beaten handily, 31-0, in the first week of the season by Milloy's new team, the Buffalo Bills.

Three weeks later when New England dropped a 20-17 decision to the lowly Washington Redskins, their record was 2-2 and there looked to be nothing special about this team.

The next week the Patriots returned home, where they went a perfect 10-0 this season, to face AFC powerhouse Tennessee. With the Patriots leading 31-27 late in the fourth quarter and the Titans driving down the field, Ty Law intercepted a Steve McNair pass and returned it 65 yards for a touchdown to seal the victory. This play started the Patriots on their current winning streak and set the tone for the rest of the season.

The moment that defined this Patriots team occurred at Indianapolis in week 14.

With the Patriots leading 38-34 and less than a minute remaining, the Colts were lining up at the New England two yard line. The Patriots defense stopped the Colts on four consecutive plays with Willie McGinest tackling Edgerrin James behind the line of scrimmage on fourth-and-goal to preserve the victory.

The New England Patriots are known for their defense, which is led by veterans Ty Law, Willie McGinest, and Tedy Bruschi.

The offense, often overlooked, is excellent as well. Tom Brady is a confident and poised leader who always comes up big in pressure situations. New England's receivers are fast and athletic, and no one is a better clutch kicker than Adam Vinatieri.



Who Got Game?

Patriots

Panthers

QUARTERBACK

Tom Brady - a third year starter, Brady is 39-12 in his career including an impressive 5-0 in the playoffs and a Super Bowl MVP award.



Jake Delhomme - a career backup NFL quarterback with two stints in the NFL Europe League. All Delhomme has done this year is complete 60 percent of his passes with 19 TD's.

RUNNING BACK

Antowain Smith - inconsistent during the regular season, has stepped it up in the playoffs. He had 22 carries for 100 yards against the Colts in the AFC Championship game.



Stephen Davis - has literally carried the Panthers all year averaging 4.5 yards per carry. DeShaun Foster has been strong as Davis' backup with 153 yards and a touchdown this postseason.

RECEIVERS

Troy Brown - is the Patriots' "go-to-guy." Receivers Deion Branch, David Givens, and Bethel Johnson add support. Tight ends are Daniel Graham and Christian Fauria.



Steve Smith - is Delhomme's main target. Smith caught the touchdown in overtime to beat St. Louis. Muhsin Muhammad is also a deep threat averaging 15.5 yards per catch.

OFFENSIVE LINE

Russ Hochstein - is filling in for injured Pro Bowl lineman Damien Woody. Despite the loss, the line has not yet allowed a sack in the playoffs.



Kevin Donnalley - leads a unit that has allowed only 24 sacks all year. They will need to hold that statistic to give Delhomme time in the pocket.

DEFENSIVE LINE

Ted Washington - the 365 pound nose tackle can stop the run, and opposing teams often need two linemen to block him. Pro Bowler Richard Seymour also highlights a strong Patriots' defense.



Mike Rucker - notched 12 sacks this season, 4th in the NFL, to lead the Panthers' line. The front four are powerful and fast combining for 29 sacks this season.

LINEBACKERS

Tedy Bruschi - was second on the team during the regular season with 131 tackles and three interceptions, two of which he returned for touchdowns.



Will Witherspoon - led the Panthers with 97 tackles this season.

SECONDARY

Ty Law - had three interceptions against the Colts in the AFC Championship game. Safety Rodney Harrison led New England with 140 tackles this season.



Ricky Manning Jr. - the rookie corner picked off Donovan McNabb three times in the NFC Championship game.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Adam Vinatieri - nailed a 46-yard game winning field goal against the Titans, and was five for five against the Colts in the AFC Championship.



John Kasay - is the last remaining player from the Panthers' inaugural season. Punter Todd Sauerbrun has a nasty knuckle punt that can be tough to catch, especially under pressure.

COACHING STAFF

Bill Belichick - won the Coach of the Year award this season and is considered by many to be the top defensive mind in football. Offensive coordinator Charlie Weis and defensive coordinator Romeo Crennel fill out Belichick's staff.



John Fox - second year at the helm in Carolina. Dan Henning is the offensive coordinator and Mike Trgovac handles the defense.

Underdog Has Bite

By Tom Borak
Sports Editor



I'm thinking of an NFL team. The head coach is only in his second year. The no-name quarterback played two different stints for the NFL Europe League. The star running back was released by the Washington Redskins. AND, the team is going to the Super Bowl.

Are you kidding me? Absolutely not. The Carolina Panthers are for real. The team has emerged from two atrocious seasons to become the surprising representative from the NFC in Super Bowl XXXVIII.

The Panthers (14-5, 11-5 regular season) are this year's sentimental favorite. Throughout the year, the team has worn t-shirts under their game-day jerseys featuring the numbers of linebacker's coach, Sam Mills and linebacker Mark Fields who are both battling cancer.



All icons courtesy NFL.com

The Panthers have two teammates suffering from cancer.

The Panthers have benefited from a strong running game all year long. They caught a huge break when the Washington Redskins cut Stephen Davis. Davis led the Panthers' offense with 1444 rushing yards this season.

Jake Delhomme, a career back up quarterback in the NFL, emerged from the shadows to take control of the team in his first year with the club. Delhomme has a knack for coming through in the clutch and being able to squeeze the ball into a tight spot and come away with a first down.

The Panthers' biggest asset is their defense. The speed of the Carolina linemen has been devastating teams all season. Defensive end Mike Rucker led the Panthers in sacks this season with 12, good for fourth in the NFL. The team had 38 overall.

Do the Panthers have any chance at dethroning the Patriots, who have been to the Super Bowl in two of the last three years? Well, if a team is playing a 29 year-old first-time starting quarterback, counting heavily on a chunk from the Redskins' scrap pile, and they've made it this far...why not?

Dave's pick: Patriots by 17

Patriots 24-20

-Todd Helbling
Men's Tennis Coach

Patriots by 7

-Rod Wood
Men's Basketball Coach

Panthers 20-17

-Ed Hegmann
Director of Athletics

Tom's pick: Panthers by 6

Patriots over Panthers.

-Brad Holdren
Men's and Women's
Rowing Coach

The Coaches Box

Coach Wood Nets #100

By Lynne Corey
Staff Writer



Peter Kelley/Bullet
Coach Rod Wood.

Mary Washington College's men's basketball coach Rod Wood notched his 100th career win last Wednesday, Jan. 21 with a 63-50 victory over Gallaudet University.

Currently in his eighth season at Mary Washington College, Wood has been named the conference's Coach of the Year three times, and coached the school's first ever nationally ranked team during the 1998-'99 season.

"To this date I couldn't tell you what my first win was. That wasn't really important to me," Wood said. "The 100th win, that one will probably fade away as time goes on because hopefully that will just be one in a string of victories. Longevity makes you win games."

Last year, Wood coached the Eagles to the 2003 Capital Athletic Conference Championship title, and advanced to the NCAA Division III Championship Tournament. According to Wood, this is the highlight of his career thus far.

"Winning the conference championship last year against Catholic at Catholic and going to the NCAA tournament was very important for me," he said. "I think it gave legitimacy to our program and legitimacy to what I was doing."

Another of Wood's favorite memories is beating Division I Virginia Military Institute.

"People don't realize [how big a win it is]. I mean that just doesn't happen," he said. "We played against a team whose players are all on full scholarship, which means that that coach had the same opportunity to recruit my players and said, 'you aren't good enough to play for me,' and we beat them."

Before coaching for the Eagles, Wood owned and operated health clubs and recruited for Division I programs. He was unsure of the success that he would find at Mary Washington.

"I didn't know [success] could come here," he said. "I'll be honest with you. It's tough to get people in here. Basketball players are notoriously dumb and I say that jokingly. We don't lower our standards here. When we win a game, not only do we beat a team that is significantly more stupid than we are, we know that they are almost going to work for us. I think that's funny."

Wood's forward coaching style makes his team stronger and helps add to the success.

"For the first time for most of my players, they have someone who's not patting them on the rear end saying 'boy, you smell like a rose,'" he said. "All of a sudden I'm telling them you don't smell

so good. This is not okay. You are not giving me everything that you've got. I'll run you out of the program because I'll be on you all the time, but I'm not going to let you put up with mediocrity."

Coaching enables Wood to do something that he loves.

"Not many people can say 'I get to play for a living,' and as far as I'm concerned, I get to play for a living."

One of the secrets of Wood's success is his passion for the sport. "I keep a notepad with me all the time," he said. "I have a notepad and pen by every TV in my house, as well as by my bedside. I dream this stuff."

Senior team captains Evan Fowler and Erik Rodriguez feel they have learned from Wood's coaching throughout the years.

"He is the smartest basketball mind I have ever met by far," Fowler said. "He is very intense and strives for perfection. He wants us to win, but to be good people at the same time, to be professional."

Rodriguez agrees. "Coach Wood knows how to win," he said. "It has been fun for me to be a part of this team."

With a 10-6 record so far this season, Wood hopes to continue his winning ways.

"In the end, talent wins games. Coaches don't win games," Wood said. "The team with the best talent usually wins games. And if it's really close, then the coach comes in."

Eagles Win Two Straight Games

By Dave Buschenfeldt
Staff Writer

For the first time in their last eight meetings, the Mary Washington women's basketball team defeated conference rival Salisbury University 64-57 on Saturday at Goolrick gymnasium. In a back and forth contest that saw the lead change hands 15 times, the Eagles showed toughness and determination in pulling out the win.

Both teams came out ready to play right from the tip-off. Salisbury started the game in full court pressure, but Mary Washington had little trouble getting the ball up the court. Sophomore guard Jenn Olinger made a beautiful cross-court bounce pass to sophomore forward Lindsey Forbush on a fast break for an easy lay-up.

The Eagles played tough defense of their own, forcing turnovers and not allowing the Sea Gulls to have any open looks at the basket. Along with their defense, Mary Washington also did an outstanding job on the boards. The Eagles outrebounded the Sea Gulls 48-39 and Forbush

pulled down a career high 20 rebounds.

"They are our biggest rival so we really came out ready to play," Olinger said. "This is the first game all year when it all really came together for us on both sides of the ball."

Any time either side looked like they were getting some breathing room, the other team came right back to tie the game or retake the lead. The largest lead for either team in the first half was five points and Mary Washington held a 27-25 advantage at halftime.

The second half brought more of the same, with neither team able to build a big lead. It wasn't until the end of the game that the Eagles were finally able to pull away. On consecutive

possessions, sophomore Amanda Burnham hit a lay-up and a short jumper to give Mary Washington a 54-47 lead with under three minutes to play. The Eagles then hit their free throws down the stretch to secure the victory.

This was a very exciting win for Mary Washington in what had recently been a one-sided rivalry. "This is the first time we have beaten Salisbury," said senior Kelly Kinahan who has been on the team for four years. "The girls told me it was my graduation present."

Coach Deena Applebury was very pleased with her team's performance. "I think the key to pulling out this victory was our continued effort on defense," she said. "This win shows us that if we

stay confident and composed, and play within ourselves, we can be successful."

Five players scored in double figures for Mary Washington. Junior Laura Hanks and freshman Debbie Bruen led the way with 11 points apiece, while Forbush, Burnham, and sophomore Diane Frantz each scored 10.

After defeating conference opponent Goucher College 66-57 on Wednesday, the Eagles (7-9, 4-3 CAC) claimed sole possession of fourth place in the conference.

The Eagles' next home game is Monday, Feb. 2 vs. Roanoke Bible College at 6 p.m.



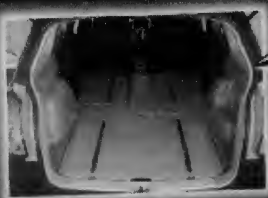
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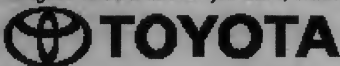


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Scene

Here Today Plays Day After Tomorrow

Both Bands Are To Play A Public Benefit Concert Sponsored By InterVarsity

By Kathryn Hershberger
Staff Writer

On Jan. 31, *Here Today* and *Building 429* will be playing a benefit concert for InterVarsity. As Inreach/Events Coordinator for InterVarsity, Teri Johnson is in charge of fundraisers. She organized the event to raise money for a mission trip during spring break or summer.

In the past, InterVarsity has had auctions and sold *Here Today* CDs as a fundraiser for other trips, such as one to the Dominican Republic last year. The band has played three other benefit concerts for InterVarsity missions.

Matt Murphy, bassist and co-founder of *Here Today*, said these types of trips "present an awesome opportunity to help people out."

The concert is a good idea for a fundraiser because "music is a way to have a good time and bring an amount of people together," Johnson said. "Music can minister to anybody, not just Christians in general."

The show is open to the public, but Johnson said "most people who come will be Christians because that's the genre of music it is." She is also hoping that "anybody and everybody will come."

Johnson anticipates a good turnout, with many Mary Washington College students in attendance because of the Mary Washington College ministries and the large amount of *Here Today* fans on campus. She also expects a number of non-students to come, including youth groups from Woodbridge, Va.

Neither band is being paid to play, but they will be compensated for their traveling expenses.

"[They are] doing this out of the goodness of their hearts," Johnson said.

Here Today does not seem to mind.

"We enjoy playing benefit concerts and helping out as much as we can," said guitarist Chip Holt. "InterVarsity has supported us a lot in the past."

They also hope that playing with *Building 429*, a nationally recognized band, will get them more exposure.

After forming in October 1999 at Mary Washington College, the band played frequently on-campus, winning band competitions and recording a four-song demo.

They have played all over Virginia, as well as Delaware and Maryland. They went on to record "Desert Room," a full-length album which was completed in November. The album is available for purchase, along with stickers and pins, at *Here Today* shows.

Here Today is happy to come back to their roots and play at Mary Washington College again.

"More people know our songs," Murphy said. "More people

sing along, which is kind of cool. It's always fun to play at home. There's no pressure at all."

Holt agrees, "It's nice to go back. We appreciate support from the students there."

Though *Here Today* plays at many religious events, their music is not geared exclusively toward Christians. Guitarist "[Our sound is] rock music with an acoustic edge," said guitarist Chip Holt. "It's targeted towards whoever likes the music."

"We play music that everyone enjoys, no matter what your personal beliefs are," Murphy said. "We write music from the heart. If we can't write a song in two hours, it's probably not going to work out. We don't sit down and say that we have these big ideas that we have to get across from our songs."

The band is, however, not lacking in spirituality. The name "Here Today" is the first half of the idiom "Here today, gone tomorrow." It means celebrating what people have today.

"To us, the only part that really matters is the 'here today' part," Murphy said. "You could be gone tomorrow; why dwell on that?"

Also playing will be *Building 429*, whose name is a reference to "building each other up" in Ephesians 4:29. The North Carolina based band has played over 400 concerts across the country in the last three years, including shows in Alaska, Texas and New York.

They can be seen with SONICFLOOD in the spring, another Christian band, whom they have toured with before.

Building 429 has recently signed with Squint Entertainment and plans to release a five song EP in April, followed by a full-length album in August 2004.



Courtesy heretoday.com

The Members of *Here Today* from Left to Right: John Daubert, Bryan Holt, former member Mark Kazmier, Matt Murphy, Ed Dickerson, and Chip Holt.

Here Today's upcoming shows include Jan. 30 at the Lighthouse Café in Farmville; Feb. 13 at Salem Fields Community Church in Fredericksburg; Feb. 14 at Common Grounds Coffee and Tea House in Arlington; and Feb. 21 at Bistro 309 in Fredericksburg. They also plan to begin recording their second album in May. To contact the band regarding booking, email bryanholt@heretodayband.com.

InterVarsity is also tentatively planning a semi-formal dance for Feb. 21. Though the event is sponsored by InterVarsity, anyone is welcome to come.

Building 429 and Here Today
Saturday, Jan. 31
Great Hall at 7 p.m.
Tickets are \$3 for students;
\$5 for non-students.
Purchase tickets in the Campus Center
through Jan. 30.

Lonestar Is Coming To Mary Washington College

By Bridget Murphy
Staff Writer

A slew of achievements including over eight million albums sold worldwide, nine No. 1 hits and six Grammy nominations add to the resume of country music sensation Lonestar.

The award-winning quartet, comprised of four native Texans Dean Sams, Keech Rainwater, Richie McDonald and Michael Britt, have performed on Good Morning America, The View, ABC's "An American Celebration At Ford's Theatre," PBS' "National Memorial Day Concert."

Next week, the group will add Dodd Auditorium to their list of venues. On Thursday, Feb. 5 the group will make their Mary Washington College debut, showcasing their most popular songs since their first album in 1995.

The show, sponsored by student activities and Giant Productions, will highlight songs from the group's 2003 "Greatest Hits-From There to Here" album that debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard Top Country Album charts.

The album includes 17 tracks of Lonestar's signature songs including "I'm Already There" which has become a theme song for men and women in the military and their families.

The tour that launched in October 2003 promises an intimate acoustic evening filled with popular songs such as their crossover hit "Amazed." This song not only brought the group international recognition, but group members regard it as the turning point of their career.



Courtesy lonestar.mu

The members of Lonestar will play at Mary Washington College on Feb. 5.

The "Acoustic on the Front Porch" tour was inspired by the group's family values and songs about the simple things in life like "From My Front Porch Looking In."

A visit songwriters Don Pfimmer and Frank Myers made to Richie McDonald's home inspired this song. As the men stood on McDonald's front porch, Myers commented on the incredible view of the landscape. Pfimmer

► See **LONESTAR** page 9

College Employee To Release Debut Album

By Eliza Doenges
Staff Writer

Students desiring a little spiritual relaxation should look no further than their own Mary Washington College staff.

Office of Human Resources employee Kevin Dwayne Mickie recently accomplished his first full-length CD project, "Just the Beginning" on which he plays every instrument. The album, released on Prophetic Entertainment, is a collection of 11 tracks of inspirational, instrumental music.

Being born to a military family, Mickie spent a few of his adolescent years in Okinawa, Japan where he was kicked out of his high school piano class and placed in wood shop as an alternative.

"I had a hard problem comprehending the notation and some of the time signatures," Mickie said, "I went home and started recording programs like BET on Jazz and various gospel shows. I myself then learned by ear."

But this rejection didn't put a damper on Mickie's interest in music.

"Music is in my blood from my grandmother to my father and down to me and my siblings," Mickie said. "Everyone in my family either sings or plays some type of instrument."

Although he has never had any professional musical training, Mickie has had some opportunities to play for some well-known



Courtesy Kevin Dwayne Mickie

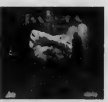
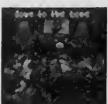
Kevin Dwayne Mickie.

individuals, including Grammy-award-winning Gospel singer Donnie McClurkin, Gospel singer Rev. Jackie McCullough, and the Major General of the United States Marine Corps.

He also instructed and conducted the first U.S. Marshall's Choir in 2002 and he played for Attorney General John Ashcroft's ceremony to commemorate James Meredith and the U.S. Marshals who assisted him in being the first black to enroll in Mississippi University.

Mickie did not intend for his music to be

► See **MUSIC** page 9



New CDs This Week

From the top left:
Down to the Bone "Cellar Funk"
Waylon Jennings "Ultimate Waylon Jennings"
Twista "Kamikaze"
Scotty Emerick "Coast Is Clear"

Note: All CD release dates were Jan. 27, 2004
All CD cover art courtesy of allmusic.com

Top 3 Movies

Courtesy of imdb.com



1. The Butterfly Effect

2. Along Came Polly

3. Win a Date with Tad Hamilton

"What Did You Do On The Snow Day?"

Photos and Interviews By Peter Kelley/Bullet



"I played 'Halo.'"

--Doug Baker,
Freshman



"I drank heavily."

--Josh Vermeulen,
Junior



"I watched 'The Price Is Right.'"

--Todd Bennett,
Junior



"I looked at sea urchins embryos."

--Allison Lockwood,
Junior



"Throwing snowballs."

--Stephen Premo,
Freshman

MWC Hosts Country Band Lonestar As They Begin Second Half Of Tour

◀ LONESTAR page 8

looked through the window seeing McDonald's family gathered in their kitchen responded that "it's not like the view looking in."

The tour, centered around this theme, features Lonestar playing on a special set piece. The group will perform from an actual front porch built onto the stage.

The Mary Washington College performance kick starts the second leg of the group's first all acoustic, all-hits headline tour.

Shortly after their appearance at the college, Lonestar will be looking to expand on their list of accomplishments and awards.

On Sunday, Feb. 8, the group will be in contention for Best Country Performance by a Duo or Group. This is their sixth Grammy nomination for a Grammy Award at the 46th Annual Grammy Awards. The show will be broadcast live on CBS at 8 p.m.

Tickets for the Mary Washington College show on Feb. 5 are on sale weekdays in the Woodard Campus Center. They will be sold from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. from Friday, Jan. 23 until Tuesday, Feb. 3 (depending on availability). General public tickets can also be purchased online at mwc.musictoday.com.

Mickie Searches For A Music Label To Distribute His CD

◀ MUSIC page 8

made public until a friend of his heard some of his songs and wanted a copy. "Just the beginning" took Mickie over a year and a half to complete. This included the recording, packaging, and availability in stores and online. The cost of the CD was approximately \$2,500 to produce. Currently, Mickie is looking at two independent distribution contracts and one major distribution contract, all of which will allow him to toss his name into the Grammy nomination ring.

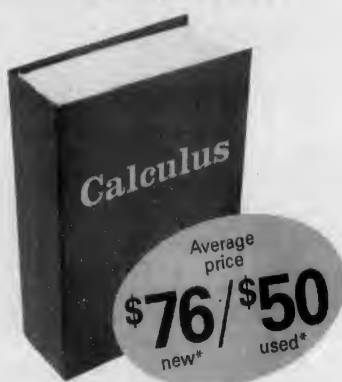
When asked what message he is trying to convey through "Just the beginning", Mickie said his attempt was to deliver a message of peace, relaxation, motivation and fun.

"I would love for the listener to be inspired, motivated and empowered among other things by this project," Mickie said. "Whether it is a road trip, cleaning the house, or someone just wants to relax after a long week, I would love for this CD to be among his or her first choices."

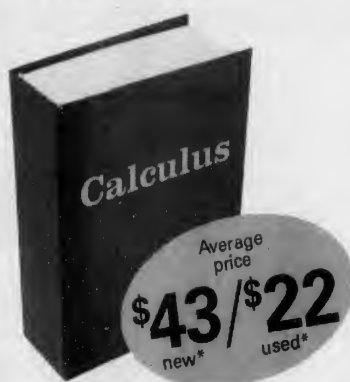
In addition to a future musical project, focusing mainly on piano ballads, Mickie is also working on a book titled *Success is the True Consequence of Failure*.

"Just the beginning" is available at The Blue Dog CDs & Tapes and Picker's Supply in downtown Fredericksburg and online at amazon.com and borders.com. For more information, visit kdwymickie.com.

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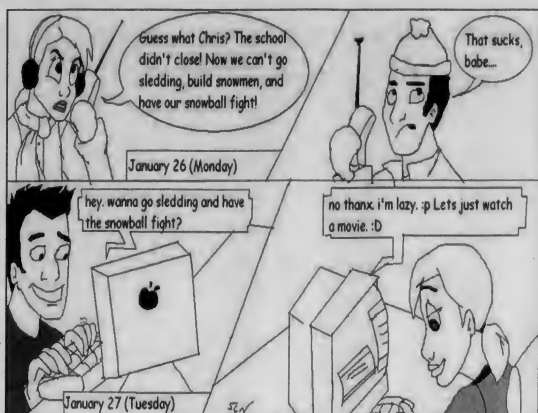
Directions from Campus:

Exit college gates and turn left onto College Avenue.

Turn right onto William Street. Go straight through the first stop light.

The Greenbrier Office is about 1/4 mile on the right.

Waiting list opens January 29, 2004.



Students en route to class on Monday try to stay warm.

Peter Kelley/Bulletin

Letters to the Editor

Consult The Alumni And Don't Change The Name

Alumnus Feels Left Out

Dear Editor:

I think the move to university status may be necessary for the future development of Mary Washington College. However, I do not think the name of "University of Mary Washington" is a necessary choice.

I think the "Moving to University Status" update mailed to alumni and friends of Mary Washington College is significant in the glaring omissions on the pamphlet's reverse.

As declared, the name "University of Mary Washington" was approved by the Board of Visitors and endorsed by the Mary Washington College Alumni Board, the Mary Washington College Foundation Board, the Fredericksburg Regional Alliance, and the Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce. What organizations were omitted, you ask? The Mary Washington College Faculty Senate, the Mary Washington College Alumni Association, and the Mary Washington College

Student Government Association are all conspicuous in their absences.

The powers-that-be were able to contact me, as an alumnus, with this mailed update.

Was it too difficult to ask my opinion on the name chosen to signify university status?

How many alumni or alumnae were asked their opinions? How many current students

were asked? I think this is an effort to strong-arm anyone concerned about Mary Washington College into sheepishly accepting the wishes of a few.

I think President Anderson along with the BOV is promoting a name change without conferring with a significant number of people who care about the past, present, and future of MWC.

Since any name change must be approved by the Virginia General Assembly, I urge the readers of *The Bulletin* to contact members of the Virginia General Assembly to block the approval of the name "University of Mary Washington".

Kevin Perry graduated in 2000

I think this is an effort to strong-arm anyone concerned about Mary Washington College into sheepishly accepting the wishes of a few.

What Was The Administration Thinking?

SCHOOL, page 3

promptly turned into icicles, so I try hard not to think on this subject.

Maybe someone can put my mind, and my eyes, to rest.

I would love to hear the administration's side of Monday's sad story. President Anderson, dispel this rumor and tell us, your faithful students, that you did not decide to continue classes Monday simply to save money.

Brittany Shankle is a sophomore



The Weekly Wassup

What to do...Where to go?!

January 29 - February 4



Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Senior Countdown 7p.m.-10p.m. Great Hall	La Noche de la Tortilla 5:30 p.m. Faculty/Staff Dining Room, Seacobeck	Concert: Building 429 and Here Today 6 p.m. Underground \$3 MWC/ \$5 General		Interest Meeting: Study Abroad in Thailand and Cambodia 4 p.m. Trinkle B39	Film and Discussion: Not One Less Asian Film Festival 5:30-8:30 p.m. Chandler 102	Rabbit Proof Fence film discussion Part of Black History Month 7 p.m. Monroe 104 Foreign Film Series: Nowhere in Africa 7:15 p.m. Dodd Auditorium
	Cheap Seats Cinema Matchstick Men @ 7 p.m. Lost in Translation @ 10 p.m. Dodd Auditorium \$1	Cheap Seats Cinema Lost in Translation @ 7 p.m. Matchstick Men @ 10 p.m. Dodd Auditorium \$1		Film and Discussion: To Live Asian film festival 5:30-8:30 p.m. Chandler 102		Film and discussion: Ringu Asian Film Festival 5:30-8:30 p.m. Chandler 102





Andrew Doci/Bullet

Tqatso demonstrates meditation to his audience on Wednesday, Jan. 21.

Monk Enlightens MWC

By **ANDREW HALL**
Assistant News Editor

Mary Washington College students were asked to comprehend the true nature of reality and the infinitude of the self last Thursday.

Khenpo Tsewang Gyatso Rinpoche, a Buddhist monk, gave a lecture in Lee Hall. The lecture was attended by roughly 100 people, mostly students.

In the hour and a half lecture, Rinpoche touched on numerous topics, including the tenets of Buddhism, religious tolerance and Buddhist meditation techniques.

Rinpoche, draped in a flowing red robe, sat in a wooden chair in front of his audience. He spoke without a microphone, and asked that audience members move closer to him in order to hear his soft voice.

Students sat on the floor at his feet with pen and pad, taking notes. His tone was light and conversant, and he dropped in a few jokes to lighten up a rigorous tour of Buddhist thought.

Rinpoche said the main tenet of Buddhism is emptiness, or the concept that nothing has a true and inherent nature. Emptiness in this case does not mean empty space, but rather the acknowledgement that nothing has an absolute, unchangeable identity.

"When you have a concept of emptiness as nothingness, then you are not getting the meaning of emptiness," Rinpoche said. "Then you are falling into nihilism or one extreme."

He said much suffering is due to the human tendency to become attached to these false, stagnant identities.

Rinpoche said once one realizes the meaning of emptiness, one can realize the true nature of reality. This realization is called enlightenment or liberation from samsara, the cycle of suffering.

"The moment we purify, or get rid of the ignorance which is within ourselves, then we have that kind of realization, and we get liberated...even in this modern world it is possible," he said.

Rinpoche said the application of the emptiness concept to self-identity, or "I" and "me" is a

major Buddhist tenet. He said the human concept of "I" is something to which people cling and is a source of much illusion and suffering. He said if people look within, there is no true center of the self.

"If we examine and analyze within ourselves, within our whole body and consciousness and senses and everything, when you apply a logical reasoning, there is no such thing what is called self," Rinpoche said. "It is merely imputed within our daily lives, our form."

Rinpoche said the second major form of emptiness was emptiness of phenomenon. Like the emptiness of self, he said material objects, thoughts and perceptions are subject to the emptiness reasoning.

He stressed the concept of interdependent origination, where no single incident or phenomenon exists by itself. He said every phenomenon is a result a previous series of actions.

Rinpoche compared the illusion of phenomenon to a person's reflection in the mirror. He said it looks real, but it is just a reflection.

"It appears so real, as if you were inside the mirror, but whatever is appearing inside the mirror is completely false," he said. "It is just illusion...but it appears so real."

Rinpoche said the movie *The Matrix*, the first in the trilogy, contained a Buddhist allegory. Neo, the main character, is an aspiring Buddha, seeking enlightenment. Morpheus is his spiritual master.

He must train Neo to see the true nature of reality; that the matrix is an illusion. Neo learns to liberate himself from the limitations of the illusory matrix, and he is able to defy gravity.

Rinpoche said extending compassion and loving-kindness to all beings is one of the great challenges of the Buddhist faith.

"It is difficult, but it doesn't mean it is impossible, it is possible, but it needs lots of training," he said.

Rinpoche ended his lecture by performing traditional Buddhist prayer chants.

Rinpoche said he was born in Tibet and spent most of his childhood in Mysore, India.

Man Caught Trespassing In New Hall

By **STEPHANIE TAIT**
Staff Writer

Two seemingly unrelated incidents were linked last week after several students responded to a campus wide alert.

Campus police issued the campus-wide alert after female students in New Hall reported a black male walked into their rooms.

Three female students called police in response to the distributed email. All three females said they were approached by a man in Simpson Library who went by the name of Jay Shikes. The male gave his phone number to one of the girls.

According to campus police the man was identified as Justyne D. Savage, 25, of Fredericksburg. He had no serious crimes on his record and was issued a trespassing warning. Campus police said Savage is no longer allowed on the Mary Washington College campus.

Campus police said Savage initially denied having been on the campus, but after further questioning, Savage said he intended to pick up females.

Savage attempted to do so on Jan. 15, according to campus police, when he entered New Hall through a back door. Going up to the third floor, Savage entered the room of sophomore Eva Fiastro where she was sitting with her roommate, sophomore Cat Urban, and their suite mate.

"He told us he was looking for Samantha Smith, but there's no one in our building with that name," Fiastro said.

A student with the name Samantha Smith, a junior, was found on campus and was notified, campus police said. She did not claim to know the male by the description given.

Fiastro said Savage entered her room and looked around. He tried to engage them in conversation by introducing himself. Savage left

after the females repeatedly asked him to leave. The three girls then reported the incident to their resident assistant, who notified the police.

After being asked if she thought alcohol was a factor in Savage's behavior, Fiastro said, "It didn't seem like he'd been drinking or anything, he just seemed hyper."

Later that day, Savage entered the room of sophomore Naomi Rucker. Rucker said she had left the door unlocked in preparation for her roommates return.

Savage entered the room without knocking, taking Rucker by surprise. He apologized, telling her his name was Jay Shikes and he thought her door was the door to the exit. Feeling threatened, she immediately told him to leave.

Rucker said Savage refused to leave and sat down on the bed, blocking the door. He tried to persuade Rucker to sit down with him, but she adamantly refused. After ten minutes, Savage left.

Rucker said she called the police, only to discover from her resident assistant that a police officer was already in the building, looking into the previous offense.

According to campus police, a few minutes later the door alarm was set off and a male was seen fleeing the building. Police searched, but were unable to find Savage at that time. Fiastro and Rucker said although they both still feel safe on campus there is increased concern.

"I never used to lock the door, ever," Fiastro said, "But now I lock it all the time."

Rucker said she was concerned, too. "It still shakes me up," Rucker said "I wonder 'what if?'"

As a result of these incidents in New Hall and the library, all the residence halls held meetings educating students on the importance of discretion when letting people into the residence halls.

Importance of Education

By **EMILY CAMPBELL**
Staff Writer

The education program is said to be one of the most demanding programs offered at Mary Washington College, as well as one of the most renowned programs in the nation, but in accordance to Virginia mandate, it is not considered a major.

Senior Kevin Johnson, who is enrolled in this program, finds it is in fact a difficult discipline.

"We are in classrooms from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.," he said. "We get up at 5:30, if that late. I'm Mr. Johnson now. I can't think of myself as Kevin."

As maintained by the campus Web site, those enrolled in the program are required to take either Education 203 or Education 204, the respective gateway courses to secondary and elementary teaching opportunities.

These classes, although essential for continuance of the program, do not accept just anyone. To gain even an informal admittance, applicants must write a two-page essay delineating why they have chosen to pursue a teaching career. This serves both as a writing sample and a way to assess the students' motivation. One's grade point average is also a factor; it must be at least a 2.5.

This can prove something of an obstacle for those seeking acceptance to the department. Although the number of applicants varies, according to department chair Dr. Venita McCall there can be as many as 120 for the fall semester and 75 to 80 in the spring. 203 to 204 are typically filled by between 50 and 60 students. Frequently, however, there are more applicants than there are class spaces.

It makes for a problem, McCall said, "but it's a beautiful problem." As such problems go, it's better by far for a program to receive too many applicants as opposed to too few, particularly for one this small.

Individuals denied admittance, though, tend to see their situation as less than beautiful. Many of

them ask faculty members what can be done to attain acceptance. They are encouraged by faculty and staff to reapply and are informed that not being accepted immediately is no cause to abandon all efforts. For upperclassman, McCall recommends the James Monroe Center and various post-baccalaureate programs that provide other alternatives.

Transfer students face an additional hurdle. A minimum of twelve Mary Washington College credits are required of all applicants—even if a transfer student has a high GPA, a good writing sample, and has already earned enough credits at his or her previous school, acceptance will be deferred until twelve credits have been completed at Mary Washington College.

The logic behind this is simply that different schools have different standards. Classes are offered differently on various campuses, both faculty and students explain, and curriculum is different in every institution.

"We all have unique ways in which we prepare teachers," McCall said.

Students who are accepted must fulfill certain general education classes—they can be found on various department checklists these and differ according to whether a student is studying secondary or elementary education. Elementary education students, for example, must have taken both statistics and finite mathematics—calculus is not accepted.

If a student has fulfilled the appropriate goals for math, he or she still must take more math classes in order to fulfill the department requirements as well.

"It really is a double major," said sophomore Tori Scott, who is studying secondary education. "I've got gen eds, ATC, my English major requirements, my education major requirements, and I'm only taking two electives to graduate."

Described by sophomore Alison Furr as "very rigid, but one of the best teaching programs in the nation," education demands unwavering dedication.

"It's a great program," Furr said. "But very hard."

Students said the workload can be daunting. Some students, McCall said, end their education study directly after completion of 203-204, while others, upon realizing the class's intensity, don't even make it that far. Still more choose instead to switch from the secondary to elementary education program or vice versa.

One of the main factors is practicum, the portion of the class which takes place in an actual teaching environment, thereby providing opportunities for observation and participation.

Time, however, must be set aside before and after class to allow for this, which may interfere with other classes or extracurricular activities.

"Juggling," McCall said, when asked if there is often trouble over juggling various obligations, "is what we do."

Practicum is also twenty-five percent of the final grade, which is measured by a very thorough grading scale—the lowest possible A is a 96.

Students receive, as McCall puts it, "the total

► See **EDUCATION**, page 2

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